

Keith Conover, M.D., FACEP

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September 22, 2018

Kathy Yocum-Lamb
Secretary, Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference

Dear Ms. Yocum-Lamb:

Fellowship Nomination

I am writing to propose Steven Weiss, Ph.D for Fellow status under the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference Fellowship program.

Steve more than meets all of the requirements for Fellowship in the Administrative Manual.

Steve has been a member of the ASRC's Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group since 2001, some 17 years, and over all those, has continually served as a leader both in his Group and in the Conference as a whole, either in an official office or as an active power behind the throne. He was ASRC Chair for 4 years from 2006-2010, SMRG Chair for 3 years (2014-2016) and is the founding and current Chair of the ASRC Credentialing Board since 2017. He is also deeply involved in the developing the training and policy for those who evaluate others' search and rescue skills and knowledge.

He has responded to over 40 missions, serving as Search Manager in three of the ASRC's largest searches in recent history: the one in Greene County, PA, in 2006; the Morgan Harrington search in Charlottesville in 2009; and the Hannah Graham search in Charlottesville in 2014.

He has been Group Training Officer for Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group three separate times, and instrumental in implementing SMRG's ambitious training programs. He has been active in teaching and training instructors.

Since 2006, he has been instrumental in managing the relationship between the ASRC and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Steve's day job is as a Homeland Security consultant, and in this capacity he has worked on several important Federal Emergency Management Agency projects,

including drafting the multi-agency coordination section of the 2008 version of the National Incident Management System, and developed the national training plan for FEMA after the 2008 NIMS roll-out. He also led the effort to bring FEMA into line with NIMS by leading development of the position qualification system for the 300+ FEMA positions. Though he added the content, he is defiantly not responsible for the PTB format.

For all of these reasons, and others I have left out to keep this letter from going on for many pages, I strongly believe that Steve Weiss is richly deserving of being a Fellow of the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference.

Thank you.

Yours aye,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Conover', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith Conover, M.D., FACEP

cc: ASRC BOD

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